

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A method of grounding a photoblank provided with an electrically conductive layer in a holding device, which comprises:

positioning the photoblank on a supporting surface of [[a]] the holding device;

providing a leaf spring with a contact-making tip mounted thereon;

lowering the contact-making tip onto a surface of the photoblank in a controlled manner with a position-adjusting element, which is connected to the leaf spring and forms an adjustable stop on the holding device, by adjusting the position-adjusting element by a defined amount, whereby the contact-making tip is lowered onto the surface of the photoblank and penetrates the surface with a predetermined impressing pressure; and

forming the leaf spring, in an unstressed state, with a bend at which a longitudinal extent of the leaf spring deviates by an angle  $\alpha$  from a rectilinear course.

Claim 2 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises, prior to mounting the leaf spring on the holding device, turning the position-adjusting element sufficiently far into a threaded hole formed in the leaf spring for securing a spacing.

Claim 3 (original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the position-adjusting element is a setting screw.

Claim 4 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises fixing a position of the photoblank with at least one hold-down fitted to the holding device and clamping the photoblank firmly with pressure on the surface of the photoblank.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (currently amended). The method according to claim 5 1, wherein the angle  $\alpha$  is between  $2^\circ$  and  $15^\circ$ .

Claim 7 (currently amended). A method of grounding a photoblank provided with an electrically conductive layer in a holding device, which comprises:

positioning a photoblank on a supporting surface of a holding device;

providing a leaf spring with a contact-making tip fitted thereto;

mounting and prepositioning a position-adjusting element on the leaf spring for forming an adjustable stop on the holding device;

holding the leaf spring away from the surface of the photoblank with an element other than the position-adjusting element; and

subsequently to positioning the photoblank, lowering the leaf spring onto the photoblank in a controlled manner;

whereby a final-position travel is predefined by the pre-positioned position-adjusting element.

Claim 8 (original). The method according to claim 7, wherein the position-adjusting element is a setting screw.

Claim 9 (original). The method according to claim 7, which comprises fixing a position of the photoblank with at least one hold-down fitted to the holding device and clamping the photoblank firmly with pressure on the surface of the photoblank.

Claim 10 (original). The method according to claim 7, wherein, in an unstressed state, the leaf spring is formed with a bend at which a longitudinal extent of the leaf spring deviates by an angle  $\alpha$  from a rectilinear course.

Claim 11 (original). The method according to claim 10, wherein the angle  $\alpha$  is between  $2^\circ$  and  $15^\circ$ .